



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

May 23, 2016

**REVIEW OF NOMINATING PETITION**

**Terrance Morrison**  
**Candidate for U.S. Representative in Congress, 14<sup>th</sup> District**

**NUMBER OF VALID SIGNATURES REQUIRED:** 1,000 signatures.

**TOTAL FILING:** 1,731 signatures.

**RESULT OF FACE REVIEW:** 1,239 face valid signatures; 492 invalid signatures.

Total number of signatures filed:		1,731
Address errors by signers (incomplete or incorrect address, dual jurisdiction entry, etc.):		258
Date errors by signers (dated after circulator, invalid date such as date of birth):		18
Other signature errors (duplicates, incomplete signature, etc.):		50
Signer not registered to vote or not registered to vote in the district:		166
Face valid signatures:		1,239

**TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURES QUESTIONED UNDER CHALLENGE:** 1,123 challenged for early date; 50 signatures challenged for jurisdiction and date errors.

**ANALYSIS OF CHALLENGE:** Challenges against 436 signatures overlapped face review; no additional signatures were determined to be invalid; 737 challenged signatures were determined to be valid.

Total number of signatures filed:		1,731
Signatures discounted under face review:		492
Signatures discounted under challenge:		-0-
Valid signatures after challenge:		1,239

In addition to challenging the validity of individual signatures, the challenger, Vanessa Moss, alleged that 81 petition sheets containing 1,123 signatures were invalid because they were “dated before the petition is authorized by law to be circulated.” However, the Attorney General has opined that the earliest date a nominating petition may be circulated is the date the current term of office commenced.<sup>1</sup> Here, the candidate’s nominating petitions were not circulated until May

<sup>1</sup> Op. Atty. Gen. No. 6495 (Feb. 8, 1988), available at <http://www.ag.state.mi.us/opinion/datafiles/1980s/op06495.htm>.

5, 2015, four months after the current term began. Staff recommends the rejection of this aspect of the challenge.

**FINAL RESULT:** 1,239 valid signatures.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Determine petition sufficient.